



The Thoroughbred

The Newsletter of the Second Cavalry Association



The East/West German Border 1976-77

Newsletter Published by the Second Cavalry Association

Founded 1899

Editor: Ned Devereaux

**SECOND REGIMENT OF DRAGOONS – SECOND CAVALRY REGIMENT – SECOND CAVALRY GROUP MECHANIZED–
SECOND ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT - SECOND ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT (LIGHT) – SECOND STRYKER
CAVALRY REGIMENT - SECOND CAVALRY REGIMENT**

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Outgoing Editor's Comments

The Spring 2016 Cover

The front cover comes from a photograph of the 1st Platoon, B Troop 1st Squadron border sector along the then East/West German border around 1976-77. It was part of the platoon's ground defense plan, and on border tours, patrolled at the time by then 2d Lt Douglas E. Lute. The photo was taken by his platoon sergeant SSG Robert Morton.

1LT Lute later went to C Troop where I joined him as his 1SG. One of our bright young trooper was a scout named Dave Hoque, now a long retired Military Police 1SG and a darned fine artist. At my request Dave did the drawing to honor his service in C Troop. As the editor, I have made the choice to once again honor our Cold War years, past C Troop Troopers, and my friend of thirty-six years Doug Lute.

I suspect this will be the last time our "Train to fight and conduct active border surveillance operations" mission will be on the cover. Over a quarter century has since passed since the Wall fell. Several thousands of potential Association members have since served in the Regiment bringing great honor to our 180 years of service in Europe, the United States, and the Middle East.

Finish Time

This is my last edition as *The Thoroughbred Editor*. I have resigned one-month shy of ten years as the editor and four months (-) shy of my 76th birthday. I was first approached by the 67th Colonel Tom Molino asking that I become the editor. Tom used the "I used to command C Troop" to twist my arm. He implied, if I remember correctly, that he had talked to my old C Troop commander Douglas E. Lute; that ended any thoughts of mine how to weasel my way out of the offer.

This is also the last edition published thru the efforts of Chris Golden. Chris will also retire effective 1 June 2016, and given all that Chris does behind the scenes, he will be hard to be replaced. The vast improvements in the writing and production of a professional Association journal is greatly in part because of Chris.

New editor John MacEnroe would best be served if someone would step up and be the publisher. It is, in my humble opinion, much too much for anyone to do both jobs. My predecessor, the late Tom Stewart and his wife Sue Ellen felt the same way. If you are interested, please email me for more details at neddevereaux@comcast.net.

My Thoughts on Leaving

I have thought long and hard about what to write on what the leaving of this volunteer work means to me personally.

Using the words of a fellow Vietnam veteran and Cold War warrior, I end simply by saying: "Thank you for the opportunity to serve." *Ned Devereaux, Editor Emeritus.*

President's message – Final report for Bill

Fellow Dragoons, it has been a great honor to serve as your President. Counting the years served in the regiment and the years as President and Vice President of the Association, Mimi and I have served in or for the regiment in some capacity for 17 years. Not as long as some but certainly, as we Kentucky boys say, a “goodly length of time” and it has all be fulfilling in every imaginable way.

I will keep this message brief and please understand I can't possible thank everyone by name who have been my friends and confidants along the way as a leader within our Association. I'll begin by saying none of what we do or have done means anything without Dragoons at all levels past and present and the privilege of serving with and for them. Our “team of volunteers” has thankfully grown over the years in support of this mission. I say thankfully because our membership has grown and the demands of our time and treasure have also grown in support of Dragoons which you all have so willingly given.

Specifically, I must recognize and thank Tom Molino, #67 and now our Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, for convincing me to get involved with the Association in late 2004. Thank you Tom for making this journey happen, a decision I'll never regret! I was joined in the beginning by two old friends, Chris Golden and Frank Hurd. I can never thank them both enough for making this journey with me and for the great service they have given me personally and our Association. I want to thank them both for their friendship since 1969 and 1970 respectively and their incredible devotion to duty in support of our Association. Simply stated, Chris and Frank made things happen and kept me sane along the way with their mentoring when needed and dedication to always doing whatever it took for us to be successful.

I must also express my thanks to General John Tilelli for joining us as our Chairman when I assumed the President's position. His leadership guided and kept us focused and on track which was often not an easy task. The boss has been my mentor and friend for near 30 years, a gift for which I'll always be grateful. Thanks for all sir!

Accomplishments have been many, but chief among them is the building of the 2CAV Memorial in Vilseck. The generosity of many paid the bill for making this honorable task happen but the one man truly lead the charge and overcame the challenges this project met head on. Retired RCSM Victor Martinez is that man. Without Vic, we would have no memorial in Vilseck. Thanks my friend, you are a special Dragoon and have the respect of all for the great role you played in making the 2CAV Memorial reality.

Finally, to our new Chairman, LTG(R) Terry Wolff, and the many board members and other volunteers not being mentioned by name, thanks! I'm proud and honored to have served with you. Without your service, hard work and never saying no to any task made this all work well. I'm proud to have been your President.

My best to you all and thanks!

Always Ready,

Bill

“Dragoon for Life”

Incoming Editor's Comments

My Fellow Dragoons:

They say the only constant is change, and we indeed are in a time of change; the active Regiment is filled with infantry, not armor; the gloriously independent How Batteries, are part of the fires squadron, tanks are gone, and strykers are in, and so on. I am now assuming the heavy mantle, and rather large shoes of Ned Devereaux, and will endeavor to be your editor of this publication for the next several years.

Allow me to introduce myself, I am John MacEnroe, I'm a Retired Artillery Major and Second Cavalryman. I started my active career in the Second Squadron where I was heavily influenced by extraordinary officers named McCabe, Lyle, Olmsted, Getgood and Wagner. I was heavily influenced also by superior NCOs named Woodley, Berfect, and Dredge. I served with lieutenants and captains of unmatched professionalism and élan.

In the years following my assignment to the Regiment, I worked in several artillery battalions, a readiness group, forward support battalion and an engineer brigade. I never again found the same home, the same extraordinary quality of officers, NCOs and troopers as I did with the Second Dragoons.

It was only a few years ago that I discovered our Association, it was like being welcomed home with open arms. Old friendships were rekindled, new ones were forged and as I discovered in Vilseck two years ago, the unbroken line of our Regiment remains rooted in our past, while staring boldly into our future.

It is my honor to be able to serve again, as our Association supports our active Regiment, and enables us to remain connected with each other ere we meet again at Fiddlers Green.

Always Ready, Second to None!

John

John MacEnroe

Incoming Presidents Comments

Hi Troopers,

I am Bryan Denny and I am extremely excited to have been selected to serve as the President of the 2D Cavalry Association.

Having recently retired from the Army after 26 years of service I look to the association to serve as linkage to the team and Troopers I was so very proud to serve with during my time in the Regiment. I am honored and humbled for this opportunity, and I appreciate the trust and confidence place in me to fulfill the responsibilities of this position.

I cannot thank Mr. Bill Bewley enough for being so generous with his time during this transition. His service over the years in the association have demonstrated his stalwart ability to build teams and connect people. He was one of the first men I met when I joined the team in 2006, and I hope to carry on his legacy and unite those that were honored enough to ride with the 2D Cavalry. Also I am extremely proud to be associated with the tremendous collection of talented people that hold positions on the association board. We, as an organization, are lucky to have such fine and capable people who dedicate their time, energy and resources in our common endeavor.

I am truly honored to serve with you.

As always there are lots of irons in the fire. Ongoing projects to educate our incoming teammates on our history, honor our fallen comrades, recognize the service of our teammates and connect Dragoons around the world. It a great time to be associated with the Regiment!!

I look to my past service with the Regiment with great fondness, and I look to the future with eagerness as we forge new friendships with new generations of Troopers.

As with any organization, I feel it is the history, the purpose and the people that define us and make us what we are. Together we are Dragoons and all we do is for the good of the Regiment.

Always a Dragoon and Always Ready!

Yours in Service

Bryan

“Dragoon for Life”

**Board Meeting Minutes Summary
14 March 2016 0900-1000 Hours**

Member Attendees:

LTG (R) Terry Wolff, Chairman; Bill Bewley, President; Chris Golden, Executive Director Mark Calvert; Bryan Denny; John Hillen; Joe Krawczyk; T. J. Linzy; Victor Martinez Bob McCorkle; Jim Van Patten and John Walker.

Other Attendees: Gen (R) John Tilelli; C; LTC Andy Rockefeller, Regimental DCO; CSM (R) Blackwood, Honorary RCSM; John MacEnroe, Ned's Apprentice and Recorder; Ned Devereaux, Assistant Recorder.

Members Unable to Attend: Tim White, VP; Frank Hurd, Treasurer; COL Mike Wieczorek.

Introduction, Association President Bill**Bewley:**

Following roll call, Association President Bill Bewley welcomed the group. The financial report and last meeting minutes had been sent under separate cover. Both were approved by the Board.

LTG (R) Terry Wolff-Chairman's Comments:

The Chairman thanked both Bill Bewley and Chris Golden "for bringing order to these meetings" as he has been very busy as Deputy Special Envoy to the Department of State dealing with ISIL. He expressed appreciation to everyone who is been helping chart the path for the Association and its efforts in support of the Regiment.

LTC Andy Rockefeller - Regimental DCO update:

The Regimental Commander was unable to attend today's meeting in that he was supervising live fire exercises. The RCSM was the chairman of a NCO board and would be out of the net all day.

Over the next several months the Regiment will have units deployed to Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Moldova, Romania, Hungary, Turkey, Egypt, and

Germany. All of these operations are in support of assuring our allies and deterring the Russians while enhancing the NATO alliance.

As always the Regiment continues to develop leaders and is continuing to add to our legacy and great history. In early March the Regiment hosted LTG (R) Don Holder and LTC (R) Tim Gauthier in Germany as part of their commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the battle of 73 Easting. General Holder also participated in several officer professional development sessions.

The active Regiment is also beginning to get ready for the celebration of our 180th anniversary coming up in May. As the planning process unfolds, the DCO will continue to keep the Association informed.

As the Regiment prepares for the summer, one event that the unit is looking forward to is a 2204 km tactical road march from Rose barracks to Estonia as part of Operation Sabre Strike. Subordinate elements will conduct tactical road marches over separate routes culminating in a live fire exercise with Estonian forces. While in route the Regiment will conduct passage of lines through and operate with the 82nd Airborne Division. Just prior to operations with the 82nd, the Regiment will conduct river crossing operations with the 12th Panzers.

The DCO expressed his appreciation for the support of the Association for the active Regiment. He was especially appreciative for the offering of membership to all of the active Dragoons. He said that he will continue to work with Chris Golden to continue their drive to register young troopers as Association members.

During the Q&A period a discussion ensued concerning the production of challenge coins commemorating this road march, the DCO remarked that these type operations would become routine and the norm. Therefore,

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it was decided that the Association would not strike coins or otherwise mark these events.

Andy Rockefeller later announced that in conjunction with the Museum, the Regiment is coming out with a book celebrating the 180 years of Dragoon history, they're working with a local publisher and Grafenwohr and they're trying to keep the cost book below five dollars each. This would enable them to distribute them to the active-duty soldiers. He further recommended that we consider buying a certain amount for sale on the Association website.

The Regiment's intent is that new troopers attending Dragoon University will get a book as part of their history briefing and Museum tour. In the back of the book there'll be 23 facts that every trooper should know as part of the spur ride, or NCO boards. The Regiment currently intends to update the book annually.

Chris Golden, Executive Director:

Chris discussed the recent enrollment of 250 to 300 new members as a result of the recent shift to our new no fee membership. He also noted that the recent retirement of the US.Army.mil email service and email address resulted in the loss of contact with hundreds of active members who are still on active duty. In addition, Chris observed that new members as well as the purchasers of Desert Storm and Border Certificates also swelled e-mail list.

He reported sales of about 250 of the Border Certificates and 75 Desert Legion Certificates. The total revenue from certificate sales surpassed \$4,000.

Frank Hurd, Treasurer:

The president noted again, the distribution of Frank's report new separate e-mail the morning of the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ned Devereaux, Thoroughbred Editor:

Ned reported was that he and John MacEnroe were working on the transition between editors, and that the upcoming edition would be his last. Chairman Wolff expressed his and the Association's appreciation for Ned's contribution and hard work. Bill Bewley announced John MacEnroe's appointment as Ned's replacement with overly kind words.

Membership:

The President reminded everyone that we had just undergone a major shift migrating from paid dues to a free membership for everyone past, present, and future. He acknowledged that this had some risk, and that there was some spirited opposition to the plan be we ultimately came to agreement to move forward. Bill believes that we will offset the loss of minimal dues and paid membership with increased donations through vastly expanded membership and more accurate database information. He expressed his gratitude to Chris for his yeoman work on cleaning up, revising and expanding our database.

Bob McCorkle, Store and Scholarship:

The Store: Is now online and open after a several month hiatus. The only problem the store now is the lack of merchandise. Bob feels there is severe shortage of clothing items. There was a discussion concerning Stetson's and the fact that they are more reasonably priced through clothing sales and we don't want to be in the position of being the more expensive option for soldiers.

Scholarships: As far as the scholarships, he's begun approaching that subject now having used the same topics for the last two years is looking for new subject matter for the essays.

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The next issue of *The Thoroughbred* will announce the scholarship competition for this year in our next edition. Bill observed that we should also do the announcement through the Chris-Grams which are more timely and efficient.

Chris Golden pointed out that success the scholarships at the active side is going to necessitate dissemination to the troop level and the high school. LTC Rockefeller committed to visiting with the Vilseck High School Principal to emphasize the scholarship opportunity.

The Classroom Project:

The upgrade of the 2d Cavalry classroom at Fort Benning's Patton Hall continues. This project is the brainchild of Ned Devereaux and has been a resounding success. The president suggest we obtain pictures of the classroom work we've done for dissemination to our membership via Chris-Gram in the near future.

Bill noted that Mark Melton is our man on the ground, who has done terrific work and will continue to do so as a new retiree remaining in the Fort Benning area.

T. J. Linzy, Historian:

Bill asked LTC Rockefeller it was possible to explore allowing TJ to accompany the Regiment during the deployment in June. Further the Association is hoping that Dr. Hugh Donahue could also accompany TJ on the deployment. That would give our historian the ability to chronicle the event for the Regiment and the Association with the aid of Hugh Donohue who happens to be an amateur historian.

TJ's objectives are is to chronicle the event and to obtain oral history interviews as time permits while he is deployed with the regiment.

LTC Rockefeller agreed to staff this through the Regiment legal section and the Regimental Commander an attempt to have a response back to the Association within two weeks.

Mark Calvert, fundraising:

Mark referenced letters that Tim White drafted and was looking for a response on whether or not they had been approved. Bill responded the letters had been approved with minor edits.

Discussion moved on to establishing a hot link on the website enabling immediate payments via PayPal.

Mark suggested that the letters be signed by either Bill or Bryan Denny or Chairman Wolff. Bill stated that he intended to sign them.

OLD BUSINESS

New Website: Chris Golden began a discussion concerning upgrading the website. We have a new website and a huge history website that was set up a separate URL. We're hoping to move the massive history site with its masthead to the dragoons.org site. Further discussion included adding the hot button directly to the PayPal account again.

Bill asked for a motion to obligate the money (estimated \$3500) for the new website. The motion was made by Chris Golden and second by Bob McCorkle. Following a minor discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.

West Point Meeting: Chris brought up the 29 April 2016 visit to West Point to meet with new Second Lieutenants with their initial assignment to the Regiment. The intent is to introduce them to the 2d Calvary in a social environment to give them the information they will need to have a head start when they report to the Regiment. It is a great opportunity for us to meet the Lieutenants and to tell them what it a

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privilege it is to serve in this Regiment. Recognizing the difficulty of expanding this into ROTC, the discussion did indicate that that was a long-range goal of the Association to make the effort to meet ROTC Lieutenants also assigned to the Regiment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Association Bylaws: Attached to the agenda for the meeting was an amendment to bylaws permitting the expansion of the number of members of the Board. This is not a revision of the bylaws, it is amendment, with the recognition that the bylaws need to be revised, modernized and updated in the near future after transition to Bryan Denny as the Association's president.

ARTICLE IV - THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND OPERATING OFFICERS

1. **Board of Governors.** The Board of Governors are the Directors of this Association, which Board shall henceforth consist of Eleven (11) members. Nine (9) members shall be elected from and by the regular membership for staggered terms of six (6) years with the remaining two (2) members sitting by virtue of their status as the incumbent Commanding Officer and Command Sergeant Major of the Regiment; however, neither the RCO or the RCSM shall be eligible for election as an operating officer of this Association.

Shall be amended to read:

ARTICLE IV - THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND OPERATING OFFICERS

1. Board of Governors. The Board of Governors are the Directors of this Association, which Board shall henceforth consist of Nineteen (19) members. Up to seventeen (17) members shall be elected from and by the regular membership for staggered terms of six (6) years with the remaining two (2) members sitting by virtue of their status as the incumbent Commanding Officer and Command

Sergeant Major of the Regiment; however, neither the RCO or the RCSM shall be eligible for election as an operating officer of this Association.

A discussion took place concerning the amendment proposal. A motion was made by Chris Golden; seconded by John Walker; passed unanimously.

Board Personnel Changes:

Bill Bewley announced the promotion of Frank Hurd to the position of Executive Vice President. Further was the appointment of Bryan Denny and Joe Krawczyk served as Directors. All agreed to these appointments.

As of this meeting, Bill Bewley tendered his resignation as president of the Association effective 23 May 2016. Bill nominated, as a motion, that COL(Ret) Bryan Denny become the next president of the 2d Calvary Association, seconded by Chris Golden and without discussion was unanimously approved.

Separately, but related Chairman Wolff commented that he and Bill Bewley began a discussion a year ago on a "succession plan" to phase out Cold War/Border warriors and transition into the newer generation of leaders. This action was a start of the plan.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be at 23 May at 0900 Eastern, with many meeting in Williamsburg. Planning for the Williamsburg meeting will be led by Chris Golden.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Chris Golden and seconded by John Walker, unanimously approved at 10:02.

Submitted by John MacEnroe, Recorder

Our 2016 Scholarship Effort**From The Dragoon Scholarship Troop Chairman**

Fellow Dragoons:

In prior we have given a \$2,500 scholarship to a deserving member of the Second Cavalry Regiment family to help them defray their college costs. Providing scholarships is fundamental to our mission and we want to do better by providing more scholarships in future years.

Historically, we have funded each year's scholarship through our operating funds. We need to do it better! We must put our scholarship program on a more solid footing. We intend to do this through the **Dragoon Scholarship Troop**. Our goal in 2016 is to raise \$5000 for two scholarships and an additional \$10,000 to build the long-term scholarship endowment. Any funds donated to the Dragoon Scholarship Troop are used solely for scholarships.

We need Dragoons who are willing to endow a named scholarship that we can count on year after year. Any Dragoon who steps up to this challenge will automatically become a member of the 1836 Society.

Please consider the Association when contemplating your charitable gifts for the year. Our scholarships stay within the Second Cavalry Family. If you have any questions, please contact me at rs6096@icloud.com or by phone at: 419/351-0546.

As always, we appreciate your generosity to the Association and are grateful for your service.

Always Ready!

Bob McCorkle

Regimental Names in the News

The 75th Colonel BG **James R. Blackburn Jr** assumed duties as Deputy Commanding General US Army North (Fifth Army) on 4 January 2016 at San Antonio, Texas.

Former 4th Squadron Commander BG **Antonio A “Tony” Aguto**, deputy commanding general, operations, 7th Infantry Division; and commander, Train Advise and Assist Command-South, Resolute Support Mission, Afghanistan, to commanding general, Joint Multinational Training Command, U.S. Army Europe, Germany.

Former 4th Squadron CSM **Christopher A. Prosser** just finished his two-year tour as the Saber Squadron CSM in Vilseck and is now headed to the Yuma Proving Grounds and Testing Center to serve as its CSM. This is considered a brigade level CSM position. He assumes his new position in early July.

On his Facebook Page, Chris posted the following message: “Thanks to all!! I will always be proud to have served in the finest cavalry regiment in the Army. Toujours Pret! Always Ready!” We got to know him well dealing with honoring the winning Gainey Cup team members and the individual awards presented by the Association. See pictures of the winning team members in the Spring 2016 electronic edition.

Former 4th Squadron commander Colonel **Chris Budihis** (he served under the 77th Colonel D.A. Sims), just graduating from the US Army War College, notified us that he has been selected to serve as the Commander United States Military Academy Preparatory School with a change of command on 1 July 2016.

Congratulations to Colonel **Phil Gage** on his selection for Brigade Command. No word as of yet as to the Brigade he will command or where.

Army Magazine, one of the voices of the *Association of the United States Army*, May 2016 edition continues to include the 2d Cavalry Regiment in the contents. The current edition has a photograph accompanying an article entitled *Europe Needs Top-Notch NCOs*, with the caption “Sgt. Robert Snyder of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment directs Pfc. Bing Steward during an exercise in Lithuania.”

Army Magazine also has a three-page article entitled *‘Papa Bear’ Didn’t Hibernate At 73 Easting* written by **SFC Brian Hamilton, USAR** who was a private under his Platoon Sergeant, **SFC (Retired) Gerald Shoates** in 3d Platoon, A Troop, 1st Squadron 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment at the time. Through Social Media Hamilton points out, they were able to bring them back into contact with each other.

The article is a very personal view of a former private with his now retired platoon sergeant years after they served together. I mention this article in part because this is the twenty-fifth anniversary year of the Battle of 73 Easting.

Hopefully, with the transition from the Cold War years to more modern time, this article will cause others who served in Desert Storm to being to write their memories to contribute to your common history.

Fiddlers Green

We were informed in December that World War II veteran **Ugo D. Arnoldi**, who served with Troop B 2d Squadron had passed away in Santa Barbara, California. If any of his World War II fellow troopers would like a mailing address to send condolences, please contact the Editor.

Philemon (Phil) A Redman, 84, Colonel, U.S. Army (ret), died 10 April 2016 at home in Glendale AZ. Phil was born 11 Jan 1932 in Toledo OH. Phil joined the Ohio National Guard in 1951 and worked his way to Captain, and in 1963 he joined the regular Army. Serving his country for 31 years, Phil served 2 tours in Viet Nam and 2 tours in Germany with one assignment with 1st Squadron in Bindlach. He retired to the Monterey Peninsula, CA in June 1980.

Military decorations include, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with 1st Oak Leaf Cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal.

Phil is survived by his children, Philemon A II of Cove OR, Connie Sue Redman and Robert Redman of Glendale AZ, sister Kathleen Clark of Clearwater FL, three grandchildren, Amanda (Jason) Powers of Ekron KY, Nicholas Redman of Lakeside CA and Kellie Lane of Manteca Ca, 4 great-granddaughters, his former wife, Barbara Sharp Redman of Glendale AZ and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Burial services to be held later in the year at the California Central Coast Veteran's Cemetery located at Fort Ord CA. The family requests that memorials be made in Phil's memory to the Wounded Warrior Project.

As we were going to press, we were notified **Colonel (R) William Dale Corliss** passed away. Among his many assignments was one with 1st Squadron in Bindlach as well. A more detailed obituary will be included in the Fall, 2016 Edition.

Editor Note: We encourage members to let the Association know when a Dragoon friend or family member passes so we can at least let the membership know. editor.2dcavalry@gmail.com is the easiest way to contact the Association to pass on this information.

Ailing

Former 3d Squadron 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment CSM **Reginal T. Chittick**, has since December 2015 been undergoing hospital treatments in the main hospital in Amberg, Germany. CSM Chittick was a mainstay in the Amberg Community both while on active duty and after he retired. Our thoughts and prayers are with Terry and his wife Hilde.

Patton Hall 2d Cavalry Classroom Update

Work Progress

The Armor School is placing great emphasis on our common Armor and Cavalry history and heritage. We are just one of the several associations who are contributing to that historical lineage. We have the largest classroom (2500 Square Feet), and have made the most progress so far.



Latest reports indicate that foam story boards, produced by the training aid support activity, that will help in showing off our 180 years of service. **Marc Melton**, our man on the ground, is hopeful boards will contain history write-up's, memorials, crests, all intended give our room an identity beyond the prints and pictures hung on the walls.

Work on this important aspect will increase following the annual Armor Conference held in May annually.

Display cases are available as well so if there are other items donated in the future we can accommodate them as well.

Donations

In the *Fall 2015* edition, we advertised the need for a Don Troiani print *2d United States Cavalry, 1861*, showing off a 2d Dragoon bugler. It only took a few days when retired LTC **Skip Metcalf**, former Regimental S4 and later Executive Officer 3/2 ACR offered up, and shipped to Fort Benning print number 201/750. **Skip** also offered the print "Century of Armor," number 139/500; it was accepted and will be displayed as well.

Rondo Jackson, a committed member of the Blackhorse Association, and a friend of our Regiment donated two sets of metal 2d Cavalry patches. One patch is full colored and the other camouflage. The intent is to mount one set outside the main entry doors to the classroom and the other inside the classroom in a place to be determined. The 2d Cavalry Association would like to thank **Rondo** for his kind donation. One more example of the Cavalry brotherhood coming together in a common cause.

Retired Sergeant Major **Ray Anderson** also made donations of rolled, but not framed and matted art work related to our border mission. The items have been shipped to Fort Benning to Marc Marcus for future hanging on the classroom walls. We have been informed the Training Aide Support Center at Fort Benning will do the framing. (More information in a PowerPoint

From Ned Devereaux (neddevereaux@comcast.net)

“The Fort Benning Patton Hall classroom is off to a good start. The Association is still seeking financial donations earmarked for the classroom to pay for the information boards. Individual and corporate donations are being sought. Given the funding need, an additional change is that further material donations for classroom walls must be self-funded (i.e., framing, shipping) by the donor given other classroom needs.”

Donate \$\$\$ to the Classroom Project: [Donate to the Classroom Project](#)

Correction

In the Fall 2015 edition in mentioning now Major (Retired) **Marc Melton**, I made reference to his attending Officer Candidate School as a Sergeant First Class (SFC). I erred. Marc was a Sergeant (E-5) when he attended OCS.

Marc is still contributing his time and talent to the establishment and upgrade of our Patton Hall classroom project. In describing this project to several friends, when thanked for my efforts I simple reply: “I only collect the items. It is Marc who makes it happen.”

Reed Museum and Regimental Heritage Center Update

Greetings from Vilseck, Germany! I know it has been a while since I have submitted an update to *The Thoroughbred*, as always, weeks seem like days and things are busy as ever. There has been a lot of great things happening here at the museum so here is breakdown:

1. We are very happy to announce that we have received our much needed funding for the museum climate control system, this is an important piece to insure we can properly preserve our artifacts and meet U.S. Army and professional museum standards. Climate (both temperature, humidity and air filtration) are extremely important to protect the collection from deterioration and mold. This new system will also provide us the proper environment for the display of older artifacts from the early periods of the Regiment's history (specifically textiles), once installed we are looked forward to working with the Center for Military History to acquire some early pieces for the museum in order to enhance the Soldiers experience when they visit the museum.
2. We also have received funding to install our fire suppression system (sprinkler system). Like the HVAC this will bring us to U.S. Army standards and museum standards and provide the proper protection for our artifacts and the building as a whole.
3. We just installed our new LED lights throughout the gallery, LED's are great because they generate very little heat (helps with climate control) and also no UV rays which are very damaging to artifacts. Not to mention the drop in energy consumption from our old lights so it is also saving taxpayer's money.
4. On 23 May 2016 we will be presenting our new 121page Reed Museum Gallery Guide. This guide will provide a chronological history of the Regiment, utilizing the artifacts in the museum to tell the story. It also provides a case by case tour and a study guide for soldiers of the Regiment to learn about our great history. This book has been a monumental effort and we are really excited to provide another layer of interpretation of our history.
5. With the assistance from the Association we have acquired some great additions to the museum collection, to include an identified grouping of materials from 1SG John L. Schirmer who served in A Troop 2d Squadron who served in the Regiment from 1945-1946, during the war he served with the 36th Cavalry Recon Squadron. We also acquired two of Colonel Charles Reed (31st Colonel of the Regiment's) Ike Jackets, both are very welcome additions to the collection.
6. Through this past year we have received from very generous artifact donations from veterans of the Regiment. We are always excited to make these connections and want to thank everyone out there for their support of the Museum.

The Center for Military History's Museum Division is going through some significant changes in order to better align the force which will allow them to provide better direct support. As part of this, they have changed their artifact donation procedures. For anyone wishing to donate to the museum, please contact the museum first, do not send anything unsolicited. We will explain the procedure and provide the required paperwork to start the donation process.

Reed Museum Update Continued

Visiting the museum is possible for anyone, the one catch is you have to be signed onto post, which requires some coordination before your visit, and this includes tax payers, veterans and American citizens, just showing up at the gate waving your passport at the guards will not get you access on post. So if you are visiting Germany and want to see the museum please contact the office ahead of time to coordinate your access. That being said, if you have business (association or otherwise) with the Regiment please coordinate directly with them to gain access. My staff is very limited and cannot facilitate escorting visitors on post beyond museum visits.

If you have any questions or want to coordinate a visit here is my email address:
ryan.t.meyer2.civ@mail.mil

Thanks so much for your service, and support of the Reed Museum.

Always Ready!

Ryan Meyer

Director, Reed Museum

Desert Storm Reunions

2016 is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the taking back of Kuwait from the hands of Saddam Hussein and the Iraqi military. To honor this anniversary, two recent events were done to honor Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

Regimental Level

The Deputy Commanding Officer Andy Rockefeller reported to the Board of Governors that in early March the Regiment hosted LTG (R) Don Holder and LTC (R) Tim Gauthier in Germany as part of their commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the battle of 73 Easting. General Holder also participated in several officer professional development sessions, taking full advantage of his knowledge and recent history of our Regiment.

Veterans Level

Several 2d Squadron 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment veterans of Desert Shield/Desert Storm gathered in Las Vegas from Thursday, 25 to Sunday, 28 February 2016 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the battle of the 73 Easting.

There were over 70 attendees including Troopers from all over the world and their families to meet with their comrades.

The events started at the "Nine Fine Irishmen" pub on Thursday night, followed by the Hofbrauhaus on Friday night, a banquet at the Italian-American Club on Saturday night, a late night session at the rooftop bar of the Mandalay Bay on Saturday / Sunday, and a final brunch on Sunday. In between the drinking and eating, troopers met for golf, gambling, and hiking (some old scouts called this "patrolling").

Of special note, was having Stivers Tawakalna Sunset, donated by the former K Troop 1SG Ray Anderson, signed by attendees. This copy will be matted, framed and hung in the 2d Cavalry Regiment classroom in Patton Hall, Fort Benning, Georgia. The group also raised funds to pay for that framing.

The group has formed a permanent Facebook group and is already planning the 30-year reunion.

Thanks to TJ Linzy for his report to the Membership.

The Regiment in the West 1867-1875

Editor Note: If the reader will recall last Spring our summary of the Regiment in post-Civil War activities started with the move out west ended with the Fetterman Massacre. This article will deal with the period 1867 to 1875. Upcoming editions will cover 1876 and the "Sioux Uprising," and follow up actions in Montana and Idaho.

1867

"During the year 1867," wrote Major Joseph I. Lambert, "the regiment was busy on the various duties of a frontier garrison in that perilous era." With the continued mass movement of settlers heading west, the primary mission besides protecting the settlers, was guarding rail roads and military telegraph lines, open to destruction by Indians. Much of the 2d Cavalry effort focused along the Bozeman Trail. Note 1.

Lambert writes that Troop M "...made two noteworthy scouts for Indians...[and] the weather was so severe it seemed many men and horses would be lost, because of the fine spirit shown by everyone, the command made the marches without losing a soldier." Note 2.

On 23 May, E Troop rushed to the aid of a wagon train, being attacked by Indians near a place known as Bridger's Ferry (it crossed the Big Horn River). The Indians were so focused on using a gulch that headed toward the river, failed to note the approach of the cavalry. Just as the Indians attacked, so did E Troop. Two troopers were killed, but several attacking Indians fell as well.

During the rest of 1867, the most notable event was the killing of Second Lieutenant Lyman S. Kidder of Troop M along with ten of his troopers along with a Sioux Indian guide. Kidder and his men were heading toward Fort Laramie (a heck of a long ride from Montana to southern Wyoming) with dispatches for Colonel George Armstrong Custer from General William T. Sherman, the CG on 29 June operating east of the regiment.

Kidder and his men reached a former camp area of Custer, and in leaving to catch up with Custer, took the wrong trail.

On 2 July, about 12 miles north of today's Edson, Kansas, Kidder and his men were spotted by hostiles in the vicinity of Beaver Creek, were completely surrounded, and killed. It was apparent to Custer and his force on 12 July 1867, that some of the troops were tortured before death, bodies were mutilated and burned. Custer's troops buried the bodies although later they were all eventually moved to Fort Leavenworth, less Kidder who was moved by his father closer to home. In the 1960's a local group established a marker and monument to mark the site. Note 3.

Winter 1867 found the Regiment scattered across four states. Headquarters, Band, Companies B, C, and L at Fort McPherson, Nebraska. In Wyoming found Companies A and F at Fort Laramie; Company D at Fort Phil Kearney; and Companies E, H, I, K at Fort Russell, and the last two companies, G at Fort Sanders, Wyoming and Company M at Fort Sedgwick, Colorado were found in winter quarters. Note 4.

1868

With the coming of the new year negotiations with the various tribes by the Indian Peace Commission, a trade was made. The US would give up the Bozeman Trail for "certain concessions for the extension of

The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

the Union Pacific Railroad through Wyoming.” This would require the US to abandon three forts, C.F. Smith, Phil Kearney, and Reno. Note 5.

1868

It was the abandoning of these three forts that convinced the Sioux that the US Government was afraid and “immediately began raids to the line of the railroad and south into Colorado.” They also took the opportunity to engage with their other enemies, Arapahos and Cheyenne, against the settlers. Lambert continues to write: “There soon started a number of fierce attacks by these tribes upon settlers of Kansas and Colorado.” Note 6.

The first detachment from B and C left their winter quarters on April 22, 1868 “on a scout to the forks of the Big Medicine to protect citizens in that vicinity from Indian depredations.” Note 7. The force returned two days later after a skirmish.

Lambert goes on to write: “Five companies of the regiment were kept almost constantly in the field during the summer and fall on account of the outbreak of the Cheyenne’s.” In September H and L were dispatched as part of a combined relief force to help save a civilian scout force who were under siege at what is now called Beecher’s Island at the edge of Colorado (near Wray) and Nebraska. Note 8.

1869

“Scouting parties were sent out often during the year 1869, many of which were during the severest kind of weather...” writes Lambert. He writes on in great detail of a four company force (C, G, I, and L) led by Captain Henry E. Noyes coming out of Fort McPherson, Nebraska.

From 11 to 23 February the force led by Noyes marched “...in the worst kind of weather. As personal equipment, the men took along an overcoat, poncho, two blankets, sixty rounds of carbine and five rounds of pistol ammunition...and no tentage. On account of the cold weather nineteen animals were abandoned and eighty-one men frost bitten.” Note 9.

With Spring came a change of mission for Companies F, G, H and L. They were ordered to move to Fort Ellis, Montana, a fort established in August 1867 just east of Bozeman, Montana. There they would stay for the next fifteen years, getting known as the “Montana Battalion.”

In September Company D while scouting along the Popo Agie River when “a group of hostile Indians made their appearance near their camp. Lieutenant [Charles B.] Stambaugh and twenty-eight men went in pursuit. After following the trail for fourteen miles they met about two hundred Sioux. The fight continued for three hours before the Indians withdrew...” Note 10.

Also in the neighborhood was the 5th Cavalry patrolling along the Republican River and engaging militarily with the Cheyennes. Lambert writes: “After several expeditions in pursuit of the Cheyennes, part of the regiment was reorganized and Companies C, D, and M 2d Cavalry were sent out with that regiment...On September 26, they struck a village of fifty-six lodges and captured it with all of its contents, then followed the remaining Indians for two hundred miles. This fight broke up the depredations of the Cheyennes in this area for the year.” Note 11.

The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

1870

In January 1870 the regiment was found in only three locations. At Omaha Barracks, Nebraska found the Regimental Headquarters, Band, and Companies A, B, C, E, I, K, M with Company D at Fort Bridger, Wyoming and the "Montana Battalion" consisting of Companies F, G, H, and I at Fort Ellis.

During 1869 the Piegan and Blood warriors of the Blackfeet tribe were reported bothering settlers, and a decision was made by the commanding general Phil Sheridan "...to send an expedition to punish them during the winter, as it would be easier to locate their camps at this time..." In early January 1870, under the command of 2d Cavalry Major Eugene M Baker, Montana Battalion at Fort Ellis headed to the Marias River adding a company of mounted infantrymen from the 13th Infantry to the fighting force who would guard the cavalry forces wagons.

"The cavalry moved by night to the Big Bend of the Marias River in the severest weather ever experienced in that country, the thermometer sometimes registering forty degrees below zero" wrote Lambert. Note 12.

Early morning on 23 January the Baker force reached the Marias Valley, saw an Indian village consisting of several tepees, and Baker ordered an attack. Some critics today accuse Baker of attacking a friendly tribe (he was after a young Piegan warrior named Owl Child) and ordering the attack while allegedly drunk. Regardless, the force killed between 171-217 old men, women and children, most of whom suffered from smallpox. Allegedly, some fifty children were among the dead. The source for this information is from Google along with more detail.

Baker's 2d Cavalry force continued down the valley, encountered abandoned lodges and destroyed them. After all, it was winter and Indians suffered from the cold as well. Eventually, with captive Indians and several hundred ponies they gathered at the Northwest Fur Company further up the valley, where both the cavalry and the Indians met, exchanged the prisoners, the Indians stolen horses and the expedition was over. Only one L Company soldier was killed. "The companies returned to Fort Ellis at once, having traveled four hundred and fifty miles." Note 13.

Lambert finishes the Marias Valley discussing briefly the reason so much criticism was made of Baker. However, the repercussions were many, and the historical significance of this Massacre caused the President, U.S. Grant to change his policy to one coined as his "Peace Policy." This would essentially have corrupt Indian Agents fired, and replaced with Christian Missionaries whom Grant felt were morally superior. Note 14.

Theophilus F. Rodenbough, in his great history of the early Regiment, from Everglade to Canyon with the Second United States Cavalry, sees fit in his written text to include a 1 June 1870 General Order. In the General Order two actions are cited.

The first deals with an event in the Wind River district of Wyoming Indian incursions resulted in Company D, commanded by Captain David S. Gordon, being ordered to help bring an end to the problem. On 4 May, Company D went after a band of Indians stealing stock, pursued the Indians for twenty-five miles, recovered the stock and killed two Indians.

The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

However, while heading back to camp Lieutenant Charles B. Stambaugh along with ten men are attacked by an Indian party ranging from sixty to seventy Indians. The fought long and hard, Lieutenant Stambaugh was killed.

The second action cited involved five men from Company C.

From April through October 1870, C Company garrisoned a temporary military post on the Little Blue River in Nebraska to protect nearby settlements from the Indians. On 17 May C Company Sergeant Patrick Leonard with four troopers, while out searching for lost horses, encountered some sixty Indians. A skirmish lasting about two hours was fought, an Indian was killed and seven wounded. Only one trooper Thomas Hubbard was wounded.

The historical significance of this skirmish was the awarding of five Medals of Honor. The group consisting of Sergeant Patrick J. Leonard and Privates Heath Canfield, Michael Himmelsbach, Thomas Hubbard, and George W. Thompson were awarded the Medal by order of the Secretary of War William W. Belknap. See the companion story in this electronic edition.

Company B, stationed at Fort Bridger in far southwest Wyoming left to establish a new camp, named after Lieutenant Stambaugh, in part because the section of territory "constantly overrun by hostile Indians." The most active phase took place over the next three years.

April 1870 found Companies E, I and A all leaving Omaha Barracks to protect the Union Pacific Railroad lines in Ogallala Station, Nebraska a; Medicine Bow Station and Rawlins Springs, Wyoming respectively.

All three companies (E, I, and A) saw some action that summer against the Indians. Lambert writes that the focus of much Indian trouble took place at Looking Glass Creek, Nebraska during the summer and fall and involved Company K.

With the Fall of the year, the Regiment once again moved into winter quarters. The Regimental headquarters, band, and companies C, E, K and M were back in Omaha Barracks, A found itself in Fort Steele, Wyoming; B still in Camp Stambaugh; D in Fort Douglas, Utah, the "Montana Battalion" consisting of F, G, H, and L at Fort Ellis, Montana, and Company I at Fort Sanders, Wyoming.

Editor Note: Lambert writes nothing more about the Regiment for 1870 or 1871. One can only assume it was back to a more garrison routine. See the companion article on "Cavalry Life on the Frontier."

1872

The summer fighting season started out when the "Montana Battalion" (F, G, H, L) was ordered, with four attached companies of 7th Infantry Regiment troops to escort Northern Pacific Railroad surveyors along the Yellowstone River. Note 15.

Near Pryor's Fork on August 13, the "Montana Battalion" settled for the night. Early morning August 14, Lambert writes: "Before daylight the next morning the camp was attacked by eight hundred Sioux, Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indians...the fight lasted about three hours, during the time the Indians were driven to cover first in the surrounding bluffs, and later down the valley..." the paragraph writing: "No doubt the small loss on both sides here was on account of darkness." Note 16.

The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

In southern Wyoming at Camp Stambaugh, a detachment of forty men from Company B on 10 September 1872 chased after a band of Indians some reported fifty miles before they got into rifle range where it was reported only one Indian was wounded. "The pace of the troop was so fast that one horse died of exhaustion and one had to be abandoned." Note 17.

And of special note is during the summer of 1872, after three years of being stationed at Omaha Barracks (and even longer distances for troops to physically travel), the Regimental Headquarters were moved to Fort Sanders, Wyoming. Here they would remain for the next five years.

1873

Lambert points out that in the summer of 1873 "Company B was one of the most active troops in the regiment." Almost continually on scouting duties, and in pursuit of Indians, they were dealing with Sioux, Arapahoes and Cheyennes. On 24 July, a white settlement on the Popo Agie River was attacked, two women were killed, and stock taken. While some stock was recovered, the Indians escaped. In September, the company joined up with Chief Washakie of the "Snake or Shoshones" tribe, enemies of the Sioux. The chief was convinced to assist the cavalry. In addition to having warriors "scattered through the hostile country [early warning of raiding parties] but to specially to locate hostile villages." From this came "a detachment of twenty Snake Scouts, organized and attached to Company B." Note 18.

The next significant activities occurred in 1874 involving most of the Regiment.

1874

On 9 February, while guarding a lumber train returning to Fort Laramie, the Officer in Charge, a Lieutenant from the 14th Infantry and Corporal Coleman from K Company 2d Cavalry were killed by Indians signifying the start of troubles a hundred miles northeast of Fort Laramie involving the Red Cloud and Spotted Trail [Indian] Agencies who had essentially captured the Indian Agents at those locations. Note 19.

The Department of the Interior asked for and received help from the Regiment. Companies A, B, E, I, K and M, two companies from the 3d Cavalry under Major Baker and eight companies of infantry headed north on 1 March and "made the march to the agencies in the severest kind of weather." Lambert points out it was the fear of force of this cavalry/infantry task force that ended the threats to the agents.

However, "hostile bands fled northwest toward the Powder River and Big Horn Valley, stealing stock and scalping settlers along the way." These must have been Sioux because their actions caused their allies, the norther Cheyennes and Arapahoes, to begin to wage war (raids) against friendly Chief Washakie and his tribe as well as settlers along the Big and Little Popo Agie Rivers.

In late June, Shoshone scouts "located a hostile village belonging to the Cheyennes and Arapahoes..." and the 2d Cavalry reacted by sending out Company B under Captain Alfred E. Bates with his sixty-three men, along with "twenty Snake Shoshone or Snake scouts...and one hundred sixty-seven Shoshone Indians under...Washakie, their chief." The maneuver of this force toward the hostile village was made at night, while camping during the day with 'scouts out' to watch for danger. A great plan

The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

that was upset because Chief Washakie's men were "noisy and unruly" and Captain Bates was concerned the hostiles would not be surprised.

On 4 July, once the hostile village [a hundred and twelve lodges] was located, Captain Bates decided, given the noise of his allied Indians, to charge. B Company "moved forward and went into dismount action about five hundred yards from the village. A gully ran through the center of the Arapahoe village, in which many warriors concealed themselves and opened sharp fire. The troop enfiladed the ditch and within a half hour the village was cleared..."

However, a number of hostiles were able to dominate the heights overlooking the village, attacking would have cost too many of Bates force, compounded by the loss of the pack horse carrying extra ammunition. The B Company force was almost out of ammunition. So the force began to withdraw, "marching by bounds" [a term that should be familiar to many in the Cavalry community], thru the rest of the day and night, returning to then named Fort Brown.

In the end some twenty-six Indians were killed and twenty wounded; friendly force casualties were four a total of dead and six wounded. Two Company B troopers were killed and three wounded of this group. And they captured 200 ponies.

Company B was not yet done for the year. Again they departed camp on 13 July, scouted along Owl Creek, the Rattlesnake Hills, and south of the Sweetwater River. They did encounter hostile "Indians on 19 July, killing one and capturing eight animals." Note 20.

1875

"During 1875 the Indian marauders become bolder in their raids, sometimes coming near military camps" Lambert describes the year. He specifically cites First Sergeant Mitchell "...and a detachment of Company D discovered a party of savages near the company garden on July 1. After a spirited fight the hostiles were driven away leaving two dead."

That fall, the Regiment moved to winter quarters. They were spread among six forts in Wyoming, and the "Montana Battalion" of F, G, H and L remained, no surprise here, in Montana. Note 21

The Conflicts Continues

With 1875, the key lesson to be learned is that the Indians were not yet defeated, were becoming bolder in their raids as Lambert points out, and in 1876, the Sioux rose up again against the settlers and the soldiers stationed in the west to protect them.

The seeds for this uprising were planted when a commission, appointed by the President, tried to negotiate with the Indians to allow mining for gold in the Black Hills of now South Dakota. Full agreement was not reached, and by late fall, 1875 an order was given to all most all Indian tribes to return to their reservations by 31 January 1876. If not, then force would be used.

In 1876 we will be reminded of Custer's Last Stand, and how four companies from the 2d Cavalry Regiment almost joined Custer at Little Big Horn. But that is a story for the next edition of *The Thoroughbred*.

Foot Notes: The Regiment in the West Continued 1867-1875

Note 1: One Hundred Years with the Second Cavalry, Major Joseph I. Lambert, Capper Printing Company, 1939, Fort Riley Kansas. P. 101. This is a primary secondary resource for following Regimental history.

The Bozeman Trail traffic was heavily weighted toward gold miners to reach the recently discovered gold fields. The Trail split off from the Oregon Trail somewhere north of Fort Laramie, Wyoming, and Fort's Reno and C.F. Smith basically straddled the Montana state line.

For those readers driving out west, several of the old forts have become national monuments or have other honors. See the companion electronic article.

Note 2. Op. Cit., p. 101.

Note 3. Ibid.

Note 4. Quotes cited from Lambert, p. 103. Fort Reno was named for a Civil War Union general Jessie Lee Reno killed in the east in 1862. Reno was a wooden fort built in August 1865 on a bluff above the Powder River and was designed to protect travelers on the Bozeman Trail. The name of the Fort has no reference for Major Reno of the Custer and his 7th Cavalry.

Note 5. Lambert, Op. Cit., p.103.

Note 6. Lambert, Ibid. I like the word "depredation". It means a plundering or laying waste; robbery. And a word seldom used today I suspect.

Note 7. The Battle of Beecher's Island took place as a civilian/military scout force, trailing rampaging Indians, had occupied basically a sand bar in the Arickee River. A Lieutenant Beecher was killed early in the battle and so the island was named after him.

Two events make this battle historical. It was the first time the attacking Indians encountered civilians or military armed with the Spencer Seven-shooter Carbine. Previously they encountered only single shot rifles. The attacking Indians found, much to their surprise, that the three "waves" that attacked were shot one right after the other. The lead Indian was shot and killed early in the battle. The second lesson, unlearned according to those who studies the battle, was the tactic that would defeat the Indian. Gather around and let the carbine do the work. It was a multiple force, two companies from the 2d, two from the 10th Cavalry and a hundred-man detachment from the 5th Infantry.

Note 8. Two personnel changes took place in 1868 worth noting. Former Union Major General Alfred Pleasanton resigned from the service on 1 January 1868. He had been commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Second Dragoons in 1845, fought in the Mexican War, and in the Civil War. Post war he returned to his pre-war rank Major. The second was the retirement of the 4th Colonel of the Regiment Thomas J. Wood. Careful readers will remember that throughout the Civil War, Wood served in the west while a series of captains and an occasional lieutenant commanded the regiment in the east. Wood however was remembered and was retired as a Major General. The 5th Colonel, Innis N. Palmer would next serve the next almost eleven years before retiring in 1879.

A historical piece of trivia concerns Palmer. Commissioned from West Point in the 2d U.S. Mounted Rifles he was a Mexican War hero, breveted to Captain after the Battle of Chapultepec. He was promoted to Captain in the pre-Civil War 2d Cavalry, fought with the 5th Cavalry during the Civil War, and while the war was being fought, was made a Regular Army Lieutenant Colonel in the now 2d US Cavalry in 1863. He came then to our Regiment to serve as the 5th Colonel.

Note 9. Lambert, Op Cit., p. 104.

Note 10. Ibid. Only two Indians were killed and ten wounded while only two troops from D Company were wounded, eight horses killed and four wounded. Note 11. Ibid. The Republican River starts in the high plains of eastern Colorado and runs east through Nebraska and Kansas. A prime location to encounter Indians.

Note 11. Ibid.

Note 12. Lambert, Op. Cit., p. 110. The rest of the Marias Massacre comes from the same page.

Note 13. Ibid.

Note 14. Grant's policy established 1870 was over less than four years later when former Union Major General Edward Canby was killed (along with Reverend Eleazar Thomas) by members of the Modoc of northern California meeting to discuss peace issues during the Modoc Wars out west.

Note 15. Lambert, Op. Cit., p. 111. The next several quotes come from the same source and page.

Note 16. There is some confusion as to who was in command. Baker according to Lambert, Captain Edward Ball according to Rodenbough. Lambert, p. 112; Rodenbough, p. 435. Therefore, no commander's name is mentioned in this article.

Note 17. Lambert, p. 112. For a slightly different version of the battle Google Pryor's Fork. The Anishinabe Indians claim they were the ones who attacked, not the other three tribes.

Note 18. Ibid.

Note 19. Lambert. All quotes from pages 112-113.

Note 20. All quotes for the 1874 history are from Lambert, pages 113-114. However, Lambert had quoted extensively from the after action report submitted by Captain Bates to the Post Adjutant dated 9 July 1874. This can be found on pages 396-97 in Rodenbough's from Everglades to Canyon with the Second United States Cavalry.

Note 21. All quotes for the 1875 history are from Lambert, pages 114-115.

Cavalry Life on the Frontier

Editor Note: The intent of this article is to give a broad brush of cavalry life on the frontier. There is certainly an age differentiation among the readers. Those of us who first saw movies in the 1940's and 1950's had a much greater exposure to famous western movies. John Wayne in "She Wore a Yellow Ribbon" only showed scenes where it was warm. It was a much less "politically correct" time as well. For our younger readers, times were different and I doubt seriously if a Cavalry movie from the old west has been made since the last century (1990's). I hope this gives the reader a better picture of Cavalry Life on the Frontier. All items in quotes are from Lambert's 100 Years with the Second Cavalry, pages 108-109.

Regardless of where a 2d Cavalry soldier was stationed, there were some events that were routine. Lambert starts out by writing: "In the frontier posts the soldier found his time occupied by a good many duties. First he must be well drilled, then he must learn to be a good marksman."

His third mention, for the smaller posts, was Guard Mount. Much time and effort, from shoes/boots, to uniforms, to clean rifles, Guard Mount was often "the only form of ceremony and was the main event of the day in a soldier's life." Note 1.

Time spent in garrison also involved 'Fatigue Duties' such as building maintenance and wood chopping. A selected few, when officer wives and families were in quarters on-post, were selected as "Strikers." Essentially these were officer family aides, and "Strikers" were generally exempt from all other duties. That said however, cavalry soldiers were expected to drop what they were doing and perform field duties such as Escort, Patrolling or performing Scouting Parties.

Escort Duties: These might be for Very Important People (like the Commanding General; the Inspector General), or routine like the Paymaster who came once every two months, military trains bringing in supplies, immigrant wagon trains to protect them as they moved open to Indian attack. Often, especially as the railroads expanded west, guarding surveyors.

The size of the escort of course depended on the size of the element being moved. A few cavalry troopers for the mail carrier; many more for a large supply train. The escort was spread throughout the column to prevent surprise should the Indian make an appearance.

Especially open to attack were herds of horses where "it was a constant struggle to prevent [the Indian] from stealing their animals. The hour when most attacks occurred was just before dawn..." Lambert goes on to write a description of the attack. "...When the Indian tried to stampede the animals, they rushed into camp flapping buffalo robes, dragging hardened hides behind their ponies, and yelling in a most weird fashion." Note 2.

Patrolling generally focused on a road trail used by a variety of travelers; back and forth with the intent of keeping hostile Indians from attacking. The patrols were pretty much limited to a specific area.

Scouting parties offered a greater opportunity for action as these cavalry soldiers were "continually in the field to keep in touch with hostile Indians, and to attack small bands of them. The main object of the scouting parties was to seek out the Indian villages and attack them in order to force warriors to stay home..." Scouting in summer was almost constant, and "...hardened and trained the troopers for war, and broke the monotony of frontier post life."

Cavalry Life on the Frontier Continued

It was pretty common to take the same equipment to the field every time the troopers left the fort. This included the carbine (seven shot repeater), pistol and saber; he carried 100 rounds of ammunition for the carbine and ten rounds for his pistol. A lariat and 'picket pin' to secure his horse at night, plus an overcoat, two blankets, canteen, and a haversack for food. Note 3.

The 'combat ration of the day' while on patrol or scouting, were staple items like coffee, bacon, and hard bread. Typical of other foods was dependent on supply trains who brought "onions, potatoes, beans, dried apples or peaches, and flour for fresh bread." And of course hunting included "buffalo, venison and smaller game."

"There was little protection for the soldiers in inclement weather, either from rain, hail or snow." Depending on the tactical situation it was not uncommon not to allow fires at night, or for soldiers to stand all night because of the threat of freezing to death should he lay down on the ground. Like his Civil War predecessor, horses were often left standing all night as well, again without blankets or other protection from the weather. Horses died, and cavalry troopers walked.

But it was not always bad weather. Lambert waxes almost poetically about cavalry troopers staring at the stars..." they sometimes sat about camp fires singing songs and telling stories. There was undoubtedly a fascination to the soldier's life along with heartaches and woes."

Note 1. Those of us who served in the Cold War Regiment can remember well the Squadron guard mounts especially in Amberg in the late 1950's and early 1960's. Some of those career Lieutenants who did the inspections then are friends and members of our Association today. Lambert points out ending his garrison description "At many cavalry posts this duty was so common that it became monotonous."

Note 2. Ibid. To those readers who grew up watching "Cowboy and Indian" movies, this is not new information.

Note 3. Additionally, the trooper usually carried other items like a butcher knife (game shot for food had to be butchered), frying pan, and a tin cup for water and coffee. Lambert mentions in cold weather the trooper carried a shelter tent. Given the amount of patrolling and scouting parties conducted in cold weather, this because a necessity over time.

Five Medals of Honor

Authors Note: Theophilus F. Rodenbough's book, from Everglade to Canyon with the Second United States Cavalry, published by the University of Oklahoma Press, is an invaluable history of the Regiment from its very beginning to essentially 1874. By then I suspect Rodenbough was tired of writing and research. The paper edition, including index runs 561 pages. For career members of the Regiment or Association members who consider themselves historians, this book should be part of your library.

Noted Civil War historian Edward G. Longacre, in his forward to the 2000 paper edition wrote:

"... Rodenbough conceived this volume, wrote half of its 427 pages of text, edited the rest, and added 125 pages of appendices..." And during the writing in 1875, little was the author to know he would be honored for his 1864 heroism at Winchester, Virginia in 1893 when he was finally awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor.

On pages 392-93 of Rodenbough's book an entry from General Orders Number 21, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, Omaha, Nebraska, June 1, 1870:

"The Commanding General announces the following creditable encounters of troops in this department with hostile Indians having taken place during the last month...

"II. On the 15th of May, 1870, Sergeant Patrick Leonard and four men of Company C, 2d Cavalry, searching on the LITTLE BLUE, Nebraska, for strayed horses, were suddenly surrounded and fired upon by a party of fifty Indians. Private Hubbard and two horses were wounded at the first fire. The Sergeant dismounted his party, giving his horses to be held by the wounded soldier. The Indians immediately charged, but were repulsed with one killed and, it is believed, three wounded. Sergeant Leonard then killed his two wounded horses, and formed a breastwork of them. No sooner was this done than the Indians again charged; were again repulsed, and retired with two empty saddles, besides four Indians wounded. Within half an hour they returned for the dead and wounded, and for two hours kept up a series of feigned attacks and desultory sharpshooting. Failing to accomplish anything, they retired.

"The Sergeant then withdrew his party, having had all his horses killed; took under his charge a settler's family of two women and one child, and started for the lower settlements. Having gone about a mile, he was again surrounded by the Indians, who, upon the appearance of a party of surveyors, fled without renewing the attack.

"The Sergeant and his party reached Captain Spaulding's camp between ten and eleven o'clock the same night.

"Captain Spaulding commends Sergeant Leonard, Privates George W. Thompson, Hetch Canfield, Thomas Hubbard, and Michael Himmelsbach, all of Company C, Second Cavalry, to the notice of the Commanding General."

And the entire General Order, the first part dealing with Brevet Major D. S. Gordon and Company D on the events and troopers that took place on 4 May 1870.

Five Medals of Honor Continued

Actually there would be sixteen Medals of Honor awarded to members of the Regiment between 1870 and 1880. These five enlisted men would be the only awardees in 1870. The largest single year where awards were made was 1877 where seven Medals were awarded for action against a hostile force.

Four more enlisted soldiers, 1SG Henry Wilkens, Corporal Harry Garland, and two privates William Leonard, and Samuel D. Phillips for their heroism in the Battle at Muddy Creek, Montana, 7 May 1877. In addition to the four, William H. Jones, depending on the history one is reading, was a fifth enlisted soldier also recognized with the Medal of Honor. Note 1.

The historical significance of this battle is it marks the end of the era of what can be called "The Great Sioux War." Now the focus, at least for the "Montana Battalion" would be the Nez Perce Indians.

The other two Medals of Honor awarded in 1877 were to 2d Lieutenant, Edward J. McClernand for his actions at Bear Paw Mountain, Montana on 30 September and Private Wilfred Clark who received his award for multiple heroic actions at Big Hole, Montana on 9 August and at Camas Meadows Idaho on 20 August. Note 2.

Company B Sergeant, T.B. Glover was awarded the Medal for his heroic actions at Mixpah Creek, Montana on 10 April 1879.

The last two awards for fighting in the Great Plains and Mountain west went to Captain Eli L. Huggins, and to 2d Lieutenant Lloyd Milton Brett for each individual actions at O'Fallons Creek, Montana 1 April 1880.

A follow up article on these ten awards has been promised to the incoming editor by the outgoing editor. Both the two officers, heroes in the Battle of O'Fallons Creek were promoted to General Officer. One of the two about later commanded the 1st Cavalry Regiment; the other the 2d Cavalry Regiment.

Note 1. William H. Jones was both a Regimental Farrier, someone who was skilled in horse's hooves as well as blacksmithing, and a Sergeant. His award of the Medal of Honor honored his actions against the Sioux (Little Muddy Creek) and the Nez Perce (Camus Meadows). At Camus Meadows he was severely injured in the knee and left the service to return to North Carolina.

Note 2. The citation reads: "... for conspicuous gallantry, especial skill as sharpshooter on August 9 - 20, 1877, while serving with Company L, 2d U.S. Cavalry, in action at Big Hole, Montana and at Camas Meadows, Idaho.

2d Cavalry Forts 1867-1875

Editor Note: As one follows along where the Regimental companies were stationed, these forts were mentioned. For those of you who travel in the western US great plains and foothills of the Rockies, this might be helpful in trip planning to see where elements of the Regiment were stationed.

Fort McPherson, Nebraska is located near the village of Maxwell. Initially known as Fort Cottonwood, it was built in 1862 to help defend against Indians. Located near the confluence of the North and South Platte Rivers, several expeditions against Indians were sent out from Fort McPherson while it was an active fort. It was abandoned in 1880, but several smaller cemeteries were merged into its now [Fort McPherson National Cemetery](#).

Fort Laramie, Wyoming is another National Historic Site near the mouth of the Laramie River along US Highway 26 in the eastern part of the state. The fort is named after the River and is outside a small town of only 200 or so inhabitants with the same name. (To avoid confusion, the city of Laramie is located on I-80 much further to the south approximately 100 miles away.)

Fort Phil Kearney, Wyoming is at the foothills of the Big Horn Mountains between Buffalo and Sheridan, Wyoming on I-90 in the northern part of the state. Phil Kearney was a popular Civil War general to distinguish this fort from a similar Nebraska Fort Kearney. Nearby is the location of the [Fetterman Massacre](#) and the Wagon Box Battlefield sites. The Wagon Box fight happened on 2 August 1867, not involving 2d Cavalry soldiers, but a way outnumbered US Army force against several hundred Indians. However, the US troops had been issued breech loading Springfield Model 1866 rifles, and new technology overcame bows and arrows. Fort Phil Kearney was part of a trio of forts (the other two being Fort's Reno and C.F. Smith) along the Bozeman Trail.

Fort Russell, Wyoming was actually named for D.A. Russell and known by that name for several years. Located outside present day Cheyenne, by the turn of the 20th Century it was one of the largest cavalry posts in the United States. Eventually the historic fort was retained as a historical site, but the land is now known as the Francis E. Warren Air Force Base.

Fort Sanders, Wyoming is located about three miles north of the town of Laramie in the southern part of the state. It was originally named for 2d Cavalry great John Buford, but Sanders was a Union general killed in the battle of Atlanta, and his name took preference, it was established to protect Union Pacific workers building the rail line across the west. A guard house, without a roof, remains.

At one-time Fort Sanders served as the Regimental Headquarters fort during a time of much activity in Montana and Wyoming.

Fort Sedgwick, Colorado is located in the far northeast of Colorado near the town of Julesburg at the mouth of Lodgepole Creek. The fort only lasted seven years and at its peak, 1,000 soldiers manned the post. In one reference its nickname was "Fort Hell." There is a museum in the town.

Fort Ellis, Montana was a 26,000-acre fort established in August 1867. Located three miles east of Bozeman, it sat on prime agricultural land. After the railroad arrived circa 1883, the citizens petitioned the Army to give up the post. As a cost cutting measure, the Army did. As best I can determine the Commanding Officer two story residence still exists, remodeled for the Montana State University.

2d Cavalry Forts Continued

[Omaha Barracks](#), Nebraska was a US Army supply installation of some 82.5 acres, now mostly a community college. Later called Fort Omaha, it is now the Fort Omaha Historic District. "The district includes the 1879 General Crook House Museum, as well as the 1879 Quartermaster's office, 1878 commissary, 1884 guardhouse, 1883 ordnance magazine and 1887 mule stables." Thank you Google.

[Fort Bridger](#), Wyoming was located in the far southwest corner of the state. It served several purposes in the 1800's. Today it is a state historic site, and several of the buildings have been restored. Easily found on I-80 near the Utah border. Thank you Google.

A sub-post of Fort Bridger was [Fort Stampbaugh](#) that only existed from 1870 to 1878. Located some eight miles north of the Sweetwater River. Camp, later Fort Stampbaugh was named after First Lieutenant Charles B. Stampbaugh, killed in action near Miner's Delight, Wyoming on May 4, 1870 either, because sources differ, while pursuing Indians who had stolen stock, or protecting commercial freighters. There is only an historic marker left today near South Pass City, Wyoming.

The fort was established in part because of mines in the vicinity. Once the mines were gone, so was the need for the fort.

[Fort Fred Steele](#), Wyoming, home of A Company the winter of 1870, was one of three forts built to protect the Union Pacific Railroad during the building of the line. The fort is now known as the Fort Fred Steele State Historic Park and is located near the town of Sinclair on current I-80. Note: The other two forts being Fort Sanders (originally Fort Buford) near Laramie, and Fort D.A. Russell at Cheyenne.

[Fort Douglas, Utah](#), home of D Company the winter of 1870, was established to help protect overland mail and telegraph lines. Once the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroad lines met at Promontory Point, the fort increased in importance. It is located three miles east of Salt Lake City and has a Military Museum.

[Fort Washakie/Camp Brown](#); Camp Brown was established in 1869 as a sub-post of Fort Bridger some 150 miles away. It was renamed Fort Washakie, a friendly chief of either the Snake or Shoshone tribes in 1878. Located on Highway 287, the old fort was within the Wind River Indian Reservation. It is also the gateway to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

[Fort Fetterman](#), about 11 miles northwest of Douglas, Wyoming on I-25 toward Casper was a wooden fort built in 1867. It was a major starting point for several Army missions against Indian Tribes. Over time the old fort deteriorated simply from neglect. It has been partly restored especially an officer's quarters and an ordnance warehouse.

Editor Note: I hope this gives you an idea of where to travel to see things 2d Cavalry out west.

Book Review

Ned Devereaux, Editor

Ghost Riders of Baghdad: Soldiers, Civilians, and the Myth of the Surge. Daniel A. Sjursen. *University Press of New England*. 280 pages. \$27.95.

It was a very personal review by AUSA contributor Colonel (Retired) Kevin C.M. Benson in the April 1916 *Army Magazine* that tweaked my interest in Major Daniel A. Sjursen's book. That and the fact that this is the second non-fiction book written about cavalry in Baghdad that I am aware of. Note 1.

Sjursen, then a recent West Point graduate, takes his "Ghost Riders" platoon of B Troop, 3d Squadron 61st Cavalry, part of a brigade of the 2d Infantry Division into Baghdad from October 2006 through December 2007. Their operations area consisted of several hundred square miles to be covered by six vehicles and his 21-man platoon initially in Salman Pak, and later in all nine Baghdad administrative districts.

In his introduction, Sjursen writes:

"This book, in addition to honoring the men of Ghost Rider platoon, is really an attempt to answer three questions: First, who really serves in the all-volunteer military of an ostensible democracy, and what do those men look, feel, and sound like? Second, what did the business of counterinsurgency and refereeing a sectarian civil war actually consist of? And, finally, if most often forgotten, what exactly did all this mean for the Iraqi people? [The book] ...describes what we saw, and what I believe the invasion wrought for Iraq and the region—unqualified catastrophe. That said, you won't find many unequivocal heroes or absolute villains in these pages. The war, I'm afraid, was never as clear as all that."

And give the author credit, he works hard at answering those three questions. Three men from Ghost platoon were killed in action, with one more committing suicide while on leave in the United States. That is a substantial hit on the platoon when one considers that during the OIF 2007-09 Regimental rotation of ours resulted in 26 killed in action, 18 of whom died in actions in Baghdad.

One Amazon reviewer wrote: "Mr. Sjursen eloquently captures all of the complexities and stark realities of the Iraq War in this thought provoking and heart breaking short read. A must-read for anyone who cares about the American involvement in Iraq and its disastrous effects on the current state of the Levant."

Reviewer Benson has a slightly different take as he ends his review by writing: "This book deserves a place in your personal library. Read it at least once a year and whenever you think your grasp of the real cost of war is slipping away." I agree.

Note 1. The other being B Troop 2d Stryker Cavalry author Konrad R.K. Ludwig and **Stryker: The Siege of Sadr City** previously reviewed in *The Thoroughbred*.

Last Minute News

2d Cavalry Association Store -

Latest News: Store is open - <http://www.2dcavstore.com/>

Contact: Bob McCorkle (v37skate@yahoo.com)

2017 Reunion:

Date: 27-30 April 2017

Location: Williamsburg, VA

Contact: Tim White (twhite@guidonleader.com)

2d Cavalry Association Visits West Point to Meet New Graduates Assigned to the Regiment.

Event: 2d Cavalry Regiment Firstie Sendoff!

Date: 29 April 2016

With approximately 20 new officers assigned to the 2d Cavalry Regiment from the current West Point graduating class, a group of Association Members, as seen in the picture below, held a welcome cookout and orientation for these new leaders at West Point.

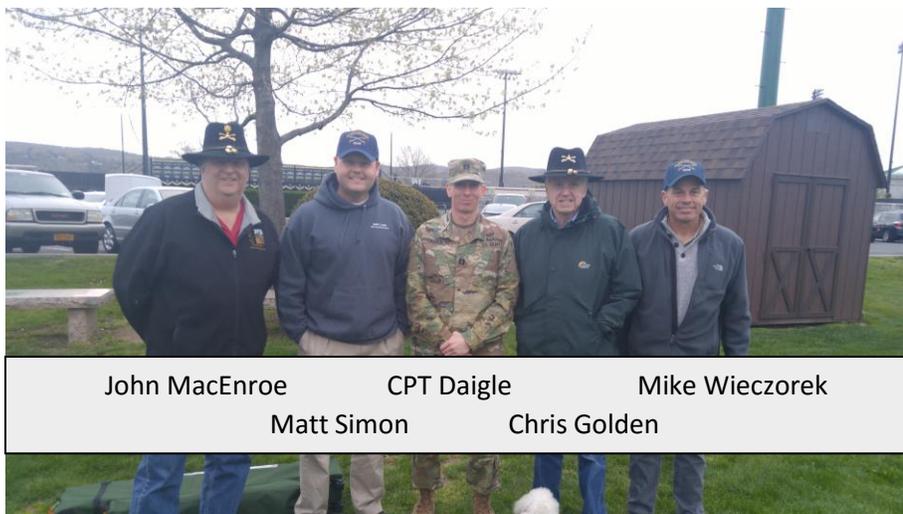
The weather cooperated by producing a very good likeness of a typical cold damp day in Vilseck.

A good time was had by all. We hope that this will become an annual event.

If you are interested in participating next year, please contact Mike or Matt below.

More Information Contact: Mike Wiczorek (michael.e.wiczorek.mil@mail.mil)

Matt Simon (Matthew.Simon@usma.edu)



John MacEnroe

CPT Daigle

Mike Wiczorek

Matt Simon

Chris Golden

Photographs – From Events or Association Projects

Gainey Cup Winners 2015



Top Scout Squad in the US Army, Winners of the 2015 Gainey Cup Competition

Clockwise from Center Top

SGT Cesar Cavazos, SGT Glen Gianello, SPC Justin Cope, SPC Daniel Casillas, SPC Joshua Castro

Team Leader: SSG Kyle Cooper

Patton Hall, Ft. Benning – Second Cavalry Classroom





Mark Melton and Phil Linn



Mark Melton and Bill Bewley

2d Cavalry Association Bench at Patton's Park, Ft. Benning, GA

